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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/612,858	07/03/2003	Ching-Huang Lin	10112371	4402

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EXAMINER

DUONG, THOI V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/612,858

Applicant(s)

LIN, CHING-HUANG

Examiner

Thoi V. Duong

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-8,11-17 and 20-33 ~~is/are~~ pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,7,17,20 and 23-33 ~~is/are~~ rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6,8,11-16,21 and 22 ~~is/are~~ objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/18/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This office action is in response to the Amendment filed June 21, 2005.

Accordingly, claims 1-8, 11-13, 16, 17, 20-24 and 26 were amended, claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 18 and 19 were cancelled, and new claims 27-33 were added. Currently, claims 1, 4-8, 11-17 and 20-33 are pending in this application; of these claims, claims 17 and 20-24 were withdrawn.

However, due to their obviousness over the cited prior art below, the amended claims 17 and 20-24, which were previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, are now subject to being rejoined. Claims 17 and 20-24 are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Since all claims previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142 have been rejoined, the restriction requirement made in the Office action mailed on 12/10/2004 is hereby withdrawn.

Accordingly, claims 1, 4-8, 11-17 and 20-33 are considered in this office action.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 17, 26 and 27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claim 30 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 30 recites the limitation "the first hole and the second hole" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 17, 20 and 23-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohgami et al. (Ohgami, USPN 5,905,550).

Re claim 1, as shown in Figs. 12-14, Ohgami discloses an LCD module connecting mechanism for connecting an LCD module 30 to an electronic device (46, 49 and components in housing 2), comprising:

an arm 21 (display mask) having a hook 75 (pushing portion) extending from a side thereof, the arm connected to the electronic device 49 (see also Fig. 1); and

a frame 20 disposed on a side of the LCD module 30, having a first opening (the top portion of the opening 72 above the engaging claw 26) and a second opening (the bottom portion of the opening 72 below the engaging claw 26), both on a lateral surface thereof (Figs. 12 and 14),

wherein the arm 21 and the frame 20 are connected by inserting the hook through the first opening with the tail 25 of the hook located at the second opening (Fig. 12 and col. 10, lines 52-61).

Re claim 17, as shown in Figs. 12-14, Ohgami discloses an LCD module connecting mechanism for connecting an LCD module 30 to an electronic device (46, 49 and components in housing 2), comprising:

a housing 21 (display mask) covering the electronic device, the housing having a hook 75 (pushing portion) extending from a side thereof (see also Fig. 1 and col. 7, line 66 through col. 8, line 18); and

a frame 20 disposed on a side of the LCD module 30, having a first opening (the top portion of the opening 72 above the engaging claw 26) and a second opening (the bottom portion of the opening 72 below the engaging claw 26), both on a lateral surface thereof (Figs. 12 and 14),

wherein the housing 21 and the frame 20 are connected by inserting the hook through the first opening with the tail 25 of the hook located at the second opening (Fig. 12 and col. 10, lines 52-61).

Re claim 26, as shown in Figs. 12-14, Ohgami discloses an LCD module connecting mechanism for connecting an LCD module 30 to an electronic device (46, 49 and components in housing 2), comprising:

a fixing member 21 (display mask) comprising a hook 75 (pushing portion) extending from a side thereof (see also Fig. 1 and col. 7, line 66 through col. 8, line 18); and

a frame 20 disposed on a side of the LCD module 30, comprising a first opening (the top portion of the opening 72 above the engaging claw 26) and a second opening (the bottom portion of the opening 72 below the engaging claw 26), both on a lateral surface thereof (Figs. 12 and 14),

wherein the fixing member 21 and the frame 20 are connected by inserting the hook through the first opening with the tail 25 of the hook located at the second opening (Fig. 12 and col. 10, lines 52-61).

Re claim 27, as shown in Figs. 12-14, Ohgami discloses an LCD module connecting mechanism for connecting an LCD module 30 to an electronic device (46, 49 and components in housing 2), comprising:

a fixing member 21 (display mask) connected to the electronic device 49 (dial), the fixing member comprising a hook 75 (pushing portion) extending from a surface of the fixing member, the hook comprising a first portion (corresponding to the top portion of the opening 72 above the engaging claw 26) and a tail portion 25 traverse to the first portion (see also Fig. 1 and col. 7, line 66 through col. 8, line 18); and

a frame 20 disposed on a side of the LCD module 30, comprising a first opening (the top portion of the opening 72 above the engaging claw 26) and a second opening (the bottom portion of the opening 72 below the engaging claw 26), both on a lateral surface thereof (Figs. 12 and 14),

wherein the first portion and the tail portion 25 of the hook 75 are inserted through the first opening, and the tail portion 25 is received by the second opening (Fig. 12).

Re claims 4 and 20, as shown in Fig. 12, the size of the second opening 72 is substantially equal to the tail 25 of the hook 75.

Re claim 5, as shown in Figs. 12 and 13, the arm 21 has a depression disposed on both sides opposite to the hook 75.

Re claims 7 and 23, the hook 75 is C-shaped as shown in Fig. 12.

Re claim 24, the electronic device of Ohgami is a main body of a notebook computer as shown in Fig. 1.

Re claim 25, the LCD module connecting mechanism of Ohgami further comprises a housing 15 covering the electronic device, wherein the arm 21 is fixed to the housing 15 (col. 6, lines 26-41).

Re claim 28, the tail portion 25 extend from the first portion in a direction towards the surface of the fixing member 21 as shown in Fig. 13.

Re claim 29, as shown in Figs. 12 and 13, the hook 75 further comprises a second portion (a groove corresponding to the engaging claw 26), the second portion extending from the surface of the fixing member 21, and wherein the first portion extends from the second portion traverse to the second portion,

wherein, re claim 30, a portion of the frame 15 between the first opening and the second opening is received in a space defined by the second portion, the first portion and the tail 25 as shown in Fig. 12.

Re claim 31, the fixing member 21 is rotatably connected to the electronic device in a main body 2 via a hinge as shown in Fig. 1 (col. 6, lines 16-40).

Re claim 32, the LCD module connecting mechanism of Ohgami further comprises a housing 15 covering the electronic device, wherein the fixing member is a portion of the housing 15 as shown in Fig. 1

Re claim 33, the LCD module connecting mechanism of Ohgami further comprises a housing 2 covering the electronic device, wherein the arm 21 is rotatably connected to the housing 2 via a hinge (col. 6, lines 16-41).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 6, 8, 11-16, 21 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claims 6, 8 and 21, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, an LCD module connecting mechanism further comprising a mold body disposed in the LCD module 30, wherein the mold body has a channel communicating the first and second openings of a frame disposed on a side of the LCD module.

The most relevant reference, USPN 5,905,550 to Ohgami et al. (Ohgani), fails to disclose or suggest a mold body having a channel communicating the first and second openings of a frame disposed on a side of the LCD module. As shown in Figs. 12-14, Ohgani only discloses an arm 21 having a hook, a frame disposed on a side of the LCD module having first and second openings formed on a lateral surface thereof, and a mold body 15 disposed in the LCD module.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably



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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached at (571) 272-2293.

Thoi Duong  
09/02/2005



DUNG T. NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER